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Issue 100 December 2012 R27,00 (VAT incl.)



**5 COOL
TOYS**

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THINGS COMING

EMBER 2012



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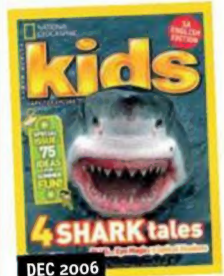
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HI, KIDS



Wow! This issue is the hundredth English issue of NG KIDS. We're very proud of every issue but here are a few of my favourite covers.

Issue 1 (June 2004) I have to choose this one, which takes us back to the early days of Harry Potter and Shrek.

Issue 15 (October 2005) Our amazing 3-D Future World issue transported you to the year 2035 and was a huge hit.

Issue 28 (December 2006) Summer is just better with NG KIDS! We had 75 cool ideas for a fun-filled time.

Issue 33 (April 2007) Anybody remember the cool poster in which we featured you and your pets? We'll be doing that again, so watch out for that in 2013.

Issue 51 (November 2008) Dynamite Dino issue. Anybody like to see dinosaurs roam the pages of NG KIDS again?

Issue 54 (February 2009) This special issue celebrated how much we love animals at NG KIDS.

Issue 89 (January 2012) The rhinoceros story got a great reaction from you. You wrote to tell us how much you care about what is happening to rhinos.

Dare to Explore! *Fiona*

WRITE TO US!

Send us your letters, birthday dates, pictures and comments. We want to hear from you, so start writing!

- Write to us at: The Editor, NG KIDS, PO Box 740, Cape Town 8000.
- Send us an e-mail to fiona@ngkids.co.za or SMS* us a letter to "NGK Letters" 33970.

* See page 49 for terms and conditions.

"OLD" READER OF THE MONTH



NADAV OSSENDRYVER APPEARED IN OUR JUNE 2007 ISSUE OF NG KIDS, WHEN HE WAS TEN YEARS OLD.

FIVE YEARS LATER HE COMBINED HIS PASSION FOR WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION WITH HIS LOVE OF THE KRUGER PARK TO CREATE SOMETHING UNIQUE. IT'S A REAL-TIME ONLINE

WILDLIFE SPOTTING SERVICE FOR VISITORS TO THE PARK. IT'S ALSO AN IMPORTANT RESEARCH TOOL AND HE'S TEAMED UP WITH CONSERVATION GROUPS LIKE THE KNP WILD DOGS, ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST AND THE LEOPARD IDENTIFICATION PROJECT.

FOR HIS WORK NADAV HAS BEEN NAMED THE PARK'S FIRST VIRTUAL HONORARY RANGER. CHECK IT OUT AT WWW.LATESTSIGHTINGS.COM.

Hello Fiona

How are you? My name is Nadav and I am ten years old. I go to Yeshiva College in Johannesburg. My school recently awarded me a trophy for my love of nature and conservation. I love going to game reserves and love to study animals and birds.

My favourite game reserve is the Kruger National Park. I hope to visit the Kalahari National Park soon. My best friend, Matti and I are already planning our own game reserve for when we finish school.

I love reading National Geographic KIDS.

Thanks
Nadav



NADAV WROTE TO TELL US ABOUT HIS DREAMS IN 1997.

SUBSCRIBERS OF THE MONTH

December's subscribers of the month are Ethan Duncan, Ben Bierman, SG Gerber and James Weyer. They've each won two books from the *Heroes of Olympus* book series, courtesy of Penguin Books and worth R270.

Rick Riordan is a phenomenally successful author and a master of mythical stories. *Heroes of Olympus: The Demigod Diaries* contains three new short stories. *Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* is the third book in the Percy Jackson series. Both are action-packed adventures not to be missed this summer.

Go to www.penguinbooks.co.za for more information.

100 years!

If you think 100 issues is cool, how about 100 years? I met Joan McCrae, who was born on 12 February 1912. She talked about what life was like for her as a child. No digital devices for her – she remembers the excitement when electricity was installed in their house!



JOAN AT 100.



FIND ME!

The knobbly starfish is in trouble! To create awareness, we hid ten of them in the magazine. Here's one, but can you spot all ten?



EDITORIAL

Editor Fiona Thomson
fiona@ngkids.co.za

Deputy Editor Delené van der Lugt
Assistant Editor Jani Coetzee
jani@ngkids.co.za

Senior Designer Monique Petersen
Copy Editor Pieter van der Lugt

PUBLISHING

General Manager Jacques Breytenbach
Associate Publisher Kelly Cloete

SALES

Business Manager
(Monthly Magazines)
Denise Wilkinson
011-505-5606

Business Manager (Executive Team)
Terence Winson
021-443-0776

Sales Manager (Cape Town)
Abigail Wilmot
021-443-9818

Sales Manager (KwaZulu-Natal)
Eugene Marais

Sales Executive (Johannesburg)
Karen Mahlangu
011-505-5662

Direct Sales Manager
(Lifestyle Magazines)
Danie Nell
011-263-4957

Business Manager (Digital Sales)
Marilize Hay
011-263-4761

Johannesburg Central Sales Team
(Agencies) Tel: 011-505-5662

Cape Town Central Sales Team
(Agencies) Tel: 021-443-9401

Durban Central Sales Team
(Agencies) Tel: 031-533-7600

MARKETING and PR
Marketing Executive Lisel Daniels
Tel: 021-443-9857
Admin Assistant Lulama Joe

CIRCULATION AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS,
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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS,
Free Post, C80006,
Cape Town 8000 RSA
Tel: 0860-103-578 Fax: 021-405-1033
E-mail: ngkids_subs@media24.com

DIGITAL

Digital Assistant
Shounees Moola
Website: www.ngkids.co.za

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS CAPE TOWN:

ABSA Building, Lifestyle Division,
4th floor, 4 Adderley Street,
Cape Town
Tel: 021-443-9871;
Postal address: PO Box 740,
Cape Town 8000

DIRECTORS

John Relihan, Raj Lalbahadur

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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS Magazine

Executive Vice President and Worldwide Publisher Claudia Malley

Chief Creative Officer, Books, Kids, and Family Melina Gerosa Bellows

Senior Vice President, Kids Publishing and Media Nancy Laties Feresten

Vice President Julie Vosburgh Agnone Design Director, Books, and Kids

Publishing and Media Jonathan Halling Executive Editor Rachel Buchholz

Senior Editor, Science Catherine D. Hughes Editorial: Andrea Silen,

Associate Editor: Nick Spagnoli, Copy Editor: Kay Boatner, Assistant

Editor Photo: Jay Sumner, Photo Director, Kids Publishing and Media:

Kelley Miller, Senior Editor: Lisa Jewell, Editor Art: Eva Absher, Design

Director, Kids Publishing and Media: Nicole M. Lazarus, Art Director:

Julide Obuz Dengel, Designer

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER AND EXTREME EXPLORER

Vice President and Publisher Francis Downey

Art Director and Designer Karen Thompson Editors Brenna Maloney,

Sara Chauhan, Macon Morehouse Designer James Wildman

Photo Editor Shannon Hibberd, Mary Ann Price

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Can you figure out where they live?

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NG KIDS goes behind the scenes of the new movie.

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Make your own yummy ice lollies.

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On the Cover

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{inside} SCOOP

BY PIETER VAN DER LUGT

Creature Class of 2012

Each year scientists discover more than 15 000 new animal species. Over 1,8 million kinds of living things have been found, named and described. How many more are there? Some experts said recently there may be more than 8 million.

While you try to get your head around those mind-boggling numbers, have a look at some of our favourites among animals discovered in 2012.



You don't always have to climb high or dive deep to find new species. Take the story of Georgette and her pet. Scientists exploring a remote forest in the Democratic Republic of the Congo went to the nearest town one day and saw a monkey on a lead. The school principal's daughter, Georgette, adopted the monkey after her mum was killed by hunters. The experts thought she was an owl monkey, a species they know of, but after much research decided the lesula, as locals call it, is a different species. You'll recognise a lesula by its human-like eyes and bright blue bum!

Here's something for all you young photographers to think about.

A new species of lacewing, a slim insect with large, see-through wings, was discovered by surfing the internet! An entomologist saw pictures taken by an amateur photographer in a park near Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia and realised it showed an unknown species. But the photographer released the insect after the photo shoot, so scientists had to go there and find one themselves. It was named *Semachrysa jade* after the lead researcher's daughter.



Remember the little guy with the big ears in Star Wars?

Funny way of speaking he had. Yoda, his name was. Scientists discovered a reddish purple kind of acorn worm about 2,5 kilometres down in the Atlantic Ocean. It has big lips... on both sides of its head. They look like large ears and so the worm was named *Yoda purpurata*, or purple Yoda.

Experts don't expect to find much animal life when they are, say 1,3 kilometres below the ground.

But at that depth, in a South African gold mine, they found a round worm about 0,5 millimetres long. The amazing thing is that it survives huge pressure from the ground above and heat of up to 37 degrees Celsius. No wonder they named it a devil's worm. The worms live in water which hasn't made contact with Earth's atmosphere in up to 6 000 years. The devil worms have been there for a long time and live deeper underground than any multicellular thing on the planet.



There are about 2 300 kinds of rodent on Earth.

All of them have strong teeth and like to gnaw on stuff. Or so we thought, until scientists discovered a toothless rat (*Paucidentomys vermidax*) on an Indonesian island. This rat doesn't chew much since it lives on soft earthworms. Probably sucks them in like spaghetti!

FOR YOUR DIARY



1 Dec

World AIDS Day

16 Dec

Day of Reconciliation

25 Dec

Christmas Day

26 Dec

Day of Goodwill



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save our planet



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Amazing Animals

SAY
CHEESE!

MACAQUE TAKES SELF- PORTRAIT



Sulawesi, Indonesia

When a macaque at Tangkoko Nature Reserve came across a camera, something clicked. He grabbed it and started

taking pictures.

Wildlife photographer David Slater was tracking the macaque's troop and had placed his camera on a tripod. The monkey instantly scrambled over, grabbed the device and began pressing buttons. He snapped self-portraits and shots of his fellow macaques.

"The monkeys kept showing their teeth when the lens was pointing at them," David says. "They may have been responding to seeing their reflections in the glass, but it looked as if they were smiling for the camera." David soon recovered the camera, ending the photo shoot.

So did this snap-happy macaque really want to be a photographer? "No," primate expert Dario Maestriperi says. "Monkeys are just naturally curious about unfamiliar objects." Guess he was monkeying around.



Watch a monkey festival — **ON YOUR SMARTPHONE!**

Just scan this code (with a parent's permission) from the *National Geographic Kids Almanac 2013*.



DAVID SLATER / CATERS NEWS AGENCY (MACAQUE, BOTH); © PAUL MILLER / EPA / CORBIS (BRENDA); AP PHOTO / DANG N. LE / HANK FOR SENATE 2012 CAMPAIGN (HANK)

NOW I KNOW
WHY THE
CHICKEN
CROSSED
THE ROAD.

CHICKEN WALKS ON LEASH

JOHN'S HEN
FRIEND GOLDIE
STROLLS DOWN
A CITY STREET.

Sydney, Australia

Goldie the chicken has an egg-cellent exercise routine. The city bird takes walks wearing a lead. "She loves exploring the street," says owner John Huntington, whose company City Chicks teaches city dwellers to care for hens in their back gardens.

Raising chickens has become the latest trend in some cities. One reason is that people like the fresh eggs. "But chickens also make great companions," says Ingrid Dimock, also of City Chicks. Some owners become so attached to their feathered friends that they treat the hens the same as dogs. They even take them for daily strolls.

Before Goldie goes on walks, her owner places her in a comfortable harness, which is attached to her lead. Unbothered by car noises, the bird moves at a leisurely pace and spends as much time pecking around for food as she does walking. "She's a bit slow," John says. "But she has a lot of fun."

Check with
your local
municipality
before getting
a pet hen.



I'M IN IT
TO WIN IT.

CAT RUNS FOR SENATE

Springfield, America

The claws might come out during this year's Presidential elections in America—one of the candidates running for office is Hank the cat.

With his owner's help, Hank is campaigning to be a senator. The cat's name won't be on the ballot (voters can write him in), so his caretakers don't expect him to win. "But by running, Hank is drawing attention to issues like the value of animal shelters," owner Matthew O'Leary says.

The five-kilogram politician has visited pet shops to meet supporters, attended photo shoots and even appeared in his own campaign ad. To look spiffy on the campaign trail, he wears a plaid tie and regularly has his nails trimmed. But Hank's bid for a spot in the Senate doesn't get in the way of his favourite activity. "He still has a lot of time for naps," says Matthew.





BY KRISTIN BAIRD RATTINI AND KATE OLESIN

Check out these outrageous facts.



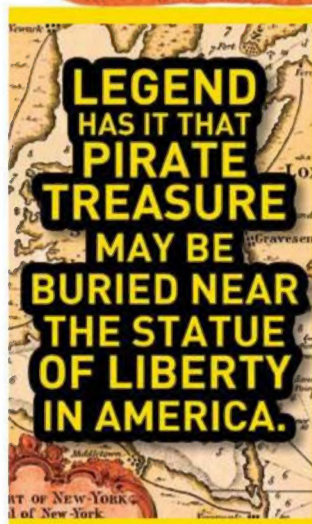
An Austrian orchestra plays musical instruments made of veggies.



SOME EXPERTS THINK

INDIVIDUAL HONEYBEES HAVE

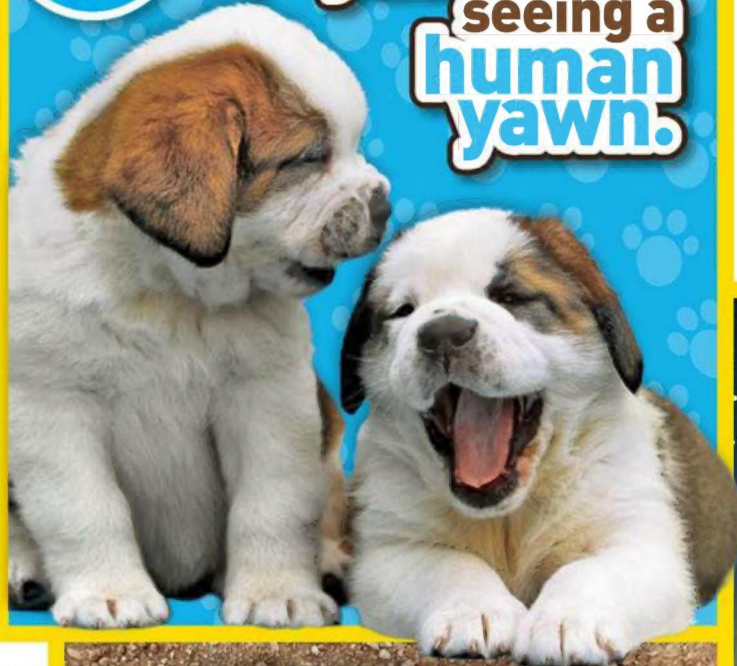
DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES.



LEGEND HAS IT THAT PIRATE TREASURE MAY BE BURIED NEAR THE STATUE OF LIBERTY IN AMERICA.

MY STORY WASN'T THAT BORING!

A dog may yawn after seeing a human yawn.



NIGHTTIME RAINBOWS ARE COMMON AT YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK.



About 235 different

languages are spoken

in China.



One type of Australian flower spends its entire life underground.



THE MWANZA flat-headed agama lizard resembles

SPIDER-MAN.

WANT MORE?

Try the book National Geographic Kids Weird But True 4 and the Weird But True app.



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Bet you
**didn't
know**

BY ANDREA SILEN

9 fiery facts about **dragons**

1 Ancient people may have mistaken dinosaur bones for **dragon remains.**

2 Some stories claim that **dragon eggs** took **3 000 years** to hatch.

3 **Draco**, the Latin word for dragon, is the name of a dragon-shaped constellation.

4 People in **China** used to think **dragons** controlled rain.

5 The flag of Wales features a **red dragon.**

6 Dragons in very old South American tales had **feathers.**

7 The capital of **Vietnam** was once known as Thang Long, or "**Soaring Dragon**".

8 In parts of Asia these mythical creatures were considered **kind.**

9 Long ago, people in **Europe** believed a dragon's **blood** cured illness.

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What to do:

1. Grab a piece of A4 paper, a Bantex glue stick and Bantex scissors.
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3. Cut them out & stick them to your page.
4. Write some cool captions & comments under your pictures.
5. Put your name, age, telephone number, address or email address on your page so that we can contact you.
6. Post your masterpiece in an A4 envelope to:
Bantex Capitals of the World Competition
Private Bag 45201, Industria, 2042
or scan it in and email to: win@bantex.co.za

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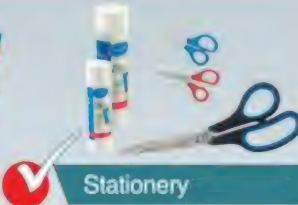
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EXTREME WEIRDNESS

from
AROUND
the WORLD

BY KAY BOATNER AND MOLLY MARCOT

weird-o-meter

BEARD VS BEARD

WHAT European Beard Championships

WHERE Leogang, Austria

DETAILS Talk about a manly competition. More than 150 well-groomed gentlemen participated in the contest, which featured 17 categories and a lot of hair spray. Contestants spruced up their facial art with curling irons, blow dryers and sculpting wax. Clippers were *not* welcome.

WHAT'S HIS
HAIR LOOK
LIKE UNDER
THE HAT?

weird-o-meter

HORSES DRESS UP

WHAT Horse compression suits

WHERE South Windsor, Australia

DETAILS These outfits really provide some horsepower. During her workout, Panamera the horse wears a blue compression suit. The garment, similar to what human sprinters wear, helps the mare recover from runs by reducing muscle soreness, which can prevent injuries. Looks like she's right on track.

BLUE IS
DEFINITELY
HER
COLOUR.

weird-o-meter

ROTTEN APPLE

WHAT Apple-shaped race car

WHERE Kiev, Ukraine

DETAILS This is one sour apple. The scowling fruit-shaped cart was part of a race against about 50 other wacky-looking vehicles. More than 30 000 people came to watch the event. The apple wasn't the fastest thing on wheels, but it *did* provide some juicy competition.

ORANGE
YOU GLAD
YOU KNOW
ABOUT THIS
APPLE?

weird-o-meter


SHARK GETS FRIENDLY

WHAT Polar Bear Swim

WHERE Vancouver, Canada

DETAILS One fake shark brings new meaning to the phrase "biting cold". To celebrate the new year, participants in this annual event waded into the English Bay with the water a chilly six degrees Celsius wearing kooky costumes or just bathing suits. The plunge raises money for charity. No cold-hearted people here.

HE'S NOT
FOOLING
ANYONE.



WHATEVER HE GROWS UP TO BE... HE WILL GROW UP THANKS TO YOU

Sometimes we can make the most amazing things happen – even when we're not around.

And that's what a legacy gift in your Will to the Children's Hospital Trust will do. It can provide critical care for little patients in the wards at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital. It can buy new medical equipment, upgrade hospital facilities, provide professional medical training and it will help to save the lives of children just like Keano Rhodes, so that they become living examples of your legacy.

Join our Circle of Life. Leave a legacy for the children at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital by making the Children's Hospital Trust a beneficiary in your Will.

Call +27 21 686 7860 or visit www.childrenshospitaltrust.org.za

Fundraising for the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital and Paediatric Healthcare in the Western Cape. The Children's Hospital Trust is an independent charity (PBO No. 930 004 493) and works in partnership with the Western Cape Government Health, who finances the running costs of the Hospital.



Circle of Life
let your legacy live on
THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL TRUST

Incredible Animal Friends

BY ELISABETH DEFFNER

DOG DIGS DEER PAL



BLACK-TAILED DEER

RANGE The Pacific Northwest region of the United States and Canada

WEIGHT 40 to 90 kilograms

DEER TALK Black-tailed deer use up to 12 different sounds to communicate.

TOUGH STOMACH These animals can safely eat poison oak—a shrub that only grows along the Pacific Coast of North America and causes bad itching. It's one of their favourite foods.

Courtenay, Canada

Kate the Great Dane can't help but fawn over her buddy, Pippin the black-tailed deer. She lovingly licks her hooved pal's coat and constantly nuzzles her neck.

The Great Dane's owner, Isobel Springett, found the scared and hungry orphaned fawn near her home and brought her inside to feed her. "The moment the two animals laid eyes on each other, they were best friends," Isobel says.

Over the next few weeks, Pippin gained strength and bonded with her dog pal. The buddies would spend the day play-fighting and running after a toy ball.

Pippin soon got healthy and joined a wild deer herd. But she still pays regular visits to Kate. When they're not cuddling, they playfully chase one another or other animals. Isobel once saw them scamper after a black bear. "He took one look at the pair and ran in the other direction," she says. This dog-and-deer team cannot be stopped!

GREAT DANE

WEIGHT 45 to 70 kilograms

ORIGIN Germany

GIANT GROWTH SPURTS

Pups can grow to more than 70 times its birth weight in one year.

ROYAL POOCH Emperors and kings used to give these dogs as gifts to other monarchs.



© ISOBEL SPRINGETT (TOP)

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SMS
AND
WIN!



DOGS HAVE A
BETTER SENSE
OF SMELL
THAN CATS.

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WHAT DO YOU GET?

Each luggage set consists of an upright 50 centimetre suitcase, a backpack, a purse and an umbrella.



DID YOU KNOW
THERE ARE THREE
TYPES OF BEE IN
A COLONY? THE
QUEEN BEE AND THE
WORKER BEES ARE
FEMALE AND THE
DRONE IS MALE.

CROCODILES
OFTEN SLEEP WITH
THEIR MOUTHS
OPEN AND CAN
PANT LIKE A DOG.



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Question: Name one of the creatures featured on Samsonite's Sammies sets.

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JOEY JELLIES

BY TIERNEY THYS WITH DIANE WEDNER

A SUNFISH SWIMS NEAR A PATCH OF KELP



TIERNEY THYS IS A
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
EXPLORER

Every time I step into the ocean, I know I'm in for an adventure. I'm a marine biologist, and study ocean sunfish or mola. This goofy-looking animal is the world's largest bony fish. An adult can weigh as much as a small car. When swimming it looks like it's flying, as it flaps its wing-like fins. It can even shoot out of the water. It has a habit of kicking back and floating on the surface to bask in the sun.



Jelly for Dinner, anyone?

The sunfish's favourite meal is jellyfish. One day when I was looking for sunfish off the coast of South Africa, I swam into the largest swarm of jellyfish I had ever seen. Each jelly was the size of a soccer ball, with tentacles like frilly tutus. They clogged the surface for as far as I could see, and it was like swimming through thick syrup.

What a wonderful all-you-can-eat buffet for a sunfish, I thought!

Slurp!

Watching a sunfish eat a jellyfish can be a pretty odd sight. I saw one sneak up under a big jelly—slurp!—only the tentacles were left dangling from the sunfish's mouth. The big fish looked like he was kissing a bunch of purple snakes. They also love egg-yolk jellies. These jellies are yellow and clear and look like the insides of a runny egg that's been cracked open. A sunfish will suck one into its round mouth with one big slurp. Importantly, the sunfish as well as a few other animals, like sea turtles, have adaptations that protect them from stings. The sunfish for instance has a very tough skin, with little plates with sharp spines that cover it. Thick gooey mucus also coats its skin, which protects it against the stinging cells.



THIS EGG-YOLK JELLY IS ON THE SUNFISH'S LIST OF FAVOURITE FOODS.

No-brainer

Jellyfish have no bones and no brain, yet they are beautiful and can even be deadly. Some scientists even think these seemingly simple creatures rule the seas. Dive in with me to discover more about jellyfish.

THIS CROWN JELLYFISH LOOKS LIKE AN ALIEN, BUT IS ALSO BEAUTIFUL.



Spineless Wonders

Jellyfish are invertebrates and have no bones at all, so their bell-shaped bodies are squishy. Most have snaky tentacles that dangle from their bodies. Some have tentacles that sting and stun their prey. All jellies gobble up plankton, shrimps, fish and even other jellies.



JEWEL-LIKE CROWN JELLY

Lovely Looks

With their trailing tentacles, jellies are some of the most alien-looking animals I've ever seen.

Each species of jellyfish looks different. The crown jelly is stunning, with an array of purple "spikes" sticking out from a broad, circular bell. Some jellies have tinges of yellow, purple, orange or brown. Many have transparent bodies, which means you can see their organs! Even clear jellies aren't colourless. Some light up and can glow green, blue or violet. The sudden light can scare off predators. A comb jellyfish turns on the colour when hit by sunlight. Once I was swimming off the coast of California in America and drifted into a huge group of these transparent jellyfish. Then an amazing thing happened. Sunlight hit the clear combs and they flashed bright green, red and blue. The sun made rainbows of light slide down their bodies as they swam.

DIETER MOBUS / AGE FOTOSTOCK; JUAN CARLOS CALVIN / AGE FOTOSTOCK; RAGMA IMAGES / SHUTTERSTOCK; CHRIS NEWBERT / MINDEN PICTURES / NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STOCK; GREGORY G DIMIJIAN / PHOTO RESEARCHERS, INC.; MELISSA FIENE; DAVID HALL / SEAPHOTOS.COM; WATERFRAME / ALAMY; JASON BRADLEY; NORBERT WU / MINDEN PICTURES / NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STOCK; RICHARD HERRMAN / MINDEN PICTURES

Jet-propelled

Jellyfish may be boneless and brainless but that doesn't mean that they're helpless. Scientists think jellyfish have been living in oceans for 650 million years. They were there even before dinosaurs existed. It is likely that they were the first animals whose nerves and muscles worked together. They have a simple nervous system called a nerve net. This is used to detect light, odour and danger.

The nerve net sends a signal that makes the muscles around the bell contract or squeeze. Water rushes out, the muscles relax and the elastic body springs open.

This is how the jelly moves along. They can't always choose where they're going, though.

Ocean currents, tides and wind can take jellies in any direction.

Poison Power

I watch out when I'm swimming with jellies not to tangle with their tentacles. Many jellies have stinging cells that line their tentacles with poison-filled barbs. When a jelly brushes against a human or prey, the barbs blast out with tremendous force. Some pierce the prey with lightning speed and can paralyse prey. Because of this sting most predators keep well away from jellies. Luckily only about 70 species of jellyfish have stings powerful enough to hurt a human. Most stings feel a bit like an insect bite but some are a lot worse.

The box jellyfish is one of the deadliest animals on Earth.

Tentacles grow from each corner of a box jelly's cube-shaped bell. They can be three metres long and each has about 5 000 stinging cells. Its sting is so powerful, it can cause someone to go into shock and drown.



THIS FISH IS NO MATCH FOR THE STINGING TENTACLES OF A PURPLE-STRIPED JELLY.

Here, there, everywhere

Jellyfish live in every ocean and saltwater lakes. Some even live in fresh water. Others can survive in the most extreme places, like under the ice in the Arctic and Antarctic. They can live where nearly everything else has died. These "dead zones" are caused by pollution and are areas in the ocean where oxygen levels are very low. Most sea life dies without oxygen. Not some jellyfish, though. They don't use much energy to get around.

This trait could be useful for jellies as the ocean warms up, which will also reduce the amount of oxygen in the water. Some jellies melt in the heat but other thrive as they feed longer and reproduce faster.

That may be why we're hearing about more jelly blooms, which is a cluster of thousands or millions of jellies in one place. Some blooms can cause big problems, as jellyfish swarms gobble up fish eggs and young fish. Jelly blooms can close beaches, because it's too dangerous to swim when stinging jellies swarm.

Jellies rule

Are blooms like these be a sign that jellies will rule the oceans one day? Do they already? We won't be able to tell until we know more about jellies. I'm making it my job to find the answers!

NOT EVERYTHING GETS STUNG! THESE FISH ARE HAPPILY HIDING OUT IN THE TENTACLES OF A MOSAIC JELLY.



A COMB JELLY IS CLEAR UNTIL HIT BY LIGHT.

That's GROSS!

WHO'S SCARED OF SLOBBERING ZOMBIES AND SLIMY MONSTERS? THE BACTERIA LIVING INSIDE YOUR BODY ARE ICKY ENOUGH.

BY CRISPIN BOYER

Don't panic, but you're outnumbered by alien life forms. They look like hairy hot dogs, spiky blobs and oozing spirals and they're crawling across—and deep inside—your body right this minute. They're bacteria!

Your body is made of trillions of tiny living blobs, called cells, that work together to do amazing things, such as holding in your organs or helping you beat your brother at *Super Mario Kart*. But every cell you call your own has about ten foreign bacteria around or near it. You can't see these hitch-hikers, but you can smell many of them. Like any living thing,

bacteria eat, reproduce, die and create waste. A lot of this waste is the source of your body odour, bad breath and torturous toots. In other words, some bacteria can make your life stink!

If the thought of being a human-shaped planet for microscopic inhabitants makes you queasy, relax. Most of your body's microbes have been hanging out harmlessly in your body for years and are essential for good health. Just like a fingerprint, your bacteria make you who you are, because no two people host the same mix of microorganisms. Cool, but still disgusting!

Little Monsters

Meet four famous bacteria that call your body "home, sweet home..."

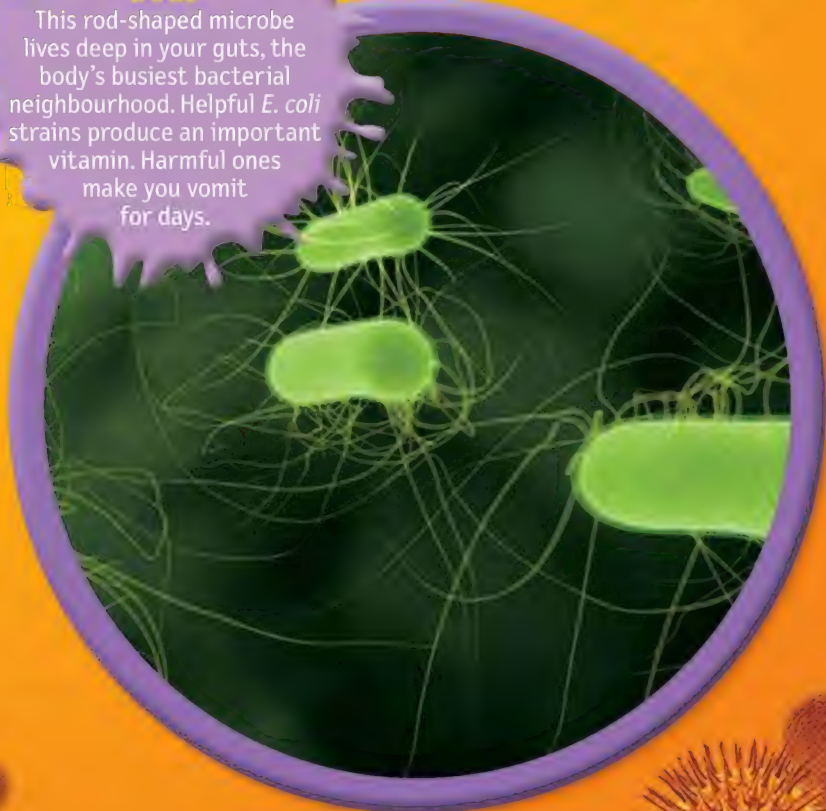
1 ACTINOMYCES VISCOSUS

When your dentist breaks out the power tools to jackhammer the brownish coat of slime known as plaque from your teeth, she's really attacking these mouth-dwelling bacteria.



2 ESCHERICHIA COLI

This rod-shaped microbe lives deep in your guts, the body's busiest bacterial neighbourhood. Helpful *E. coli* strains produce an important vitamin. Harmful ones make you vomit for days.



3 METHANOGENS

About half of all people have these simple microbes living in their guts. Methanogens produce methane, a greenhouse gas that animals—including humans—pass into the atmosphere when they, um, toot.

4 *BREVIBACTERIUM LINENS*

This foul-smelling microbe thrives in the sweat simmering in your sneakers, unleashing an awful stink when you kick off your shoes. It's also used to ferment stinky cheese.



More Grossness

Your body's bacterial zoo begins when you're born, as you take in bacteria from your mum's skin and milk. You also consume lots of harmless and helpful bacteria in food and water every day.



Some bacteria are used by scientists to help produce new vaccines and other medicine.



Your body's bacteria eat everything from salt inside your intestines to chemicals in your sweat.



Belly button lint—a mix of clothing fibres and dead skin cells—is a hot spot for bacteria. Scientists recently found more than 1 400 species of microbes living in people's navels.

ALL About MONEY!

BY KRISTIN BAIRD RATTINI



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KAPUSTA, AS SLANG FOR MONEY.

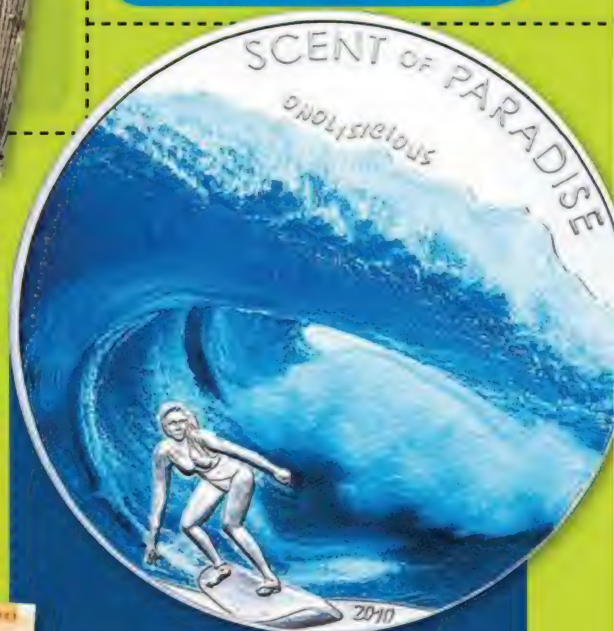


ANCIENT AZTECS USED
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AS CURRENCY.

During World War II,
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the Morse code message
“We win when we
work willingly.”



SIR EDMUND HILLARY –
THE FIRST EXPLORER
TO SUMMIT MOUNT
EVEREST – APPEARS ON
THE FIVE-DOLLAR NOTE
IN HIS NATIVE
NEW ZEALAND.



THE PACIFIC ISLAND OF PALAU ISSUED
A SILVER COIN THAT SMELLS LIKE
OCEAN BREEZES.

A THOUSAND AMERICAN
NOTES WEIGH ONE
KILOGRAM.

THINK
HOW MANY
TOP HATS I
COULD BUY
WITH THAT.



In China and Vietnam, people burn
fake money – called
“**ghost money**” – to honour
their ancestors.



MONEY TIP!

WANT
A RAISE IN
YOUR POCKET
MONEY? TELL YOUR
PARENTS
YOU’LL PUT
THE EXTRA CASH IN
A **SAVINGS**
ACCOUNT.



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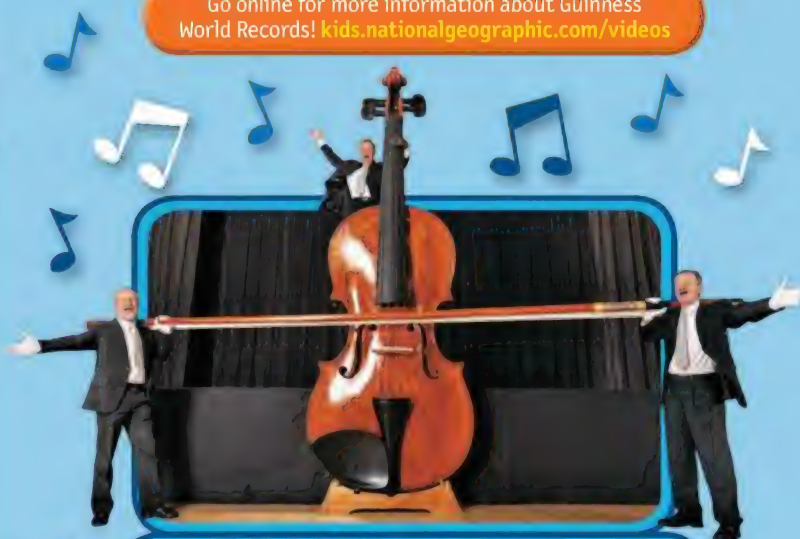
BY MOLLY MARCOT

Go online for more information about Guinness World Records! kids.nationalgeographic.com/videos

SHE IS NOT A KID!



Standing just over 60 centimetres tall, Jyoti Amge of India is the shortest living woman. The 18-year-old leads a normal life—with a few adjustments for her condition, which is caused by a form of dwarfism. Her clothes, eating utensils and even her jewellery are custom-made to fit her body, and she sits at a small desk in an even smaller chair at school. But her tiny size doesn't stop her from dreaming big.



GIGANTIC VIOLIN

Get out your stepping stool. The world's largest violin is 4.2 metres tall—about the height of seven regular violins stacked on top of one another. Built from the same materials as a standard violin, this one needs seven people to carry it to its oversize trailer and has a 5-metre bow. That's a huge jam session!

SKIPPING DOGS!

For most dogs, a skipping rope means a game of tug of war. Not these 13 pooches. They hold the record for the most number of dogs skipping with the same rope. The canines' owners taught them to skip as part of their playtime, then added the rope. The pooches keep rhythm with commands from their owners. Maybe it won't be long before they learn to jump two ropes.



PUNIT PARANJPE / AFP / GETTY IMAGES (AMGE); RANALD MACKECHNIE / GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (VIOLIN); SHINSUKE KAMIOKA / GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (DOGS). INFORMATION PROVIDED BY © 2012 GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS LIMITED.

THE
SANDMAN

TOOTH
FAIRY

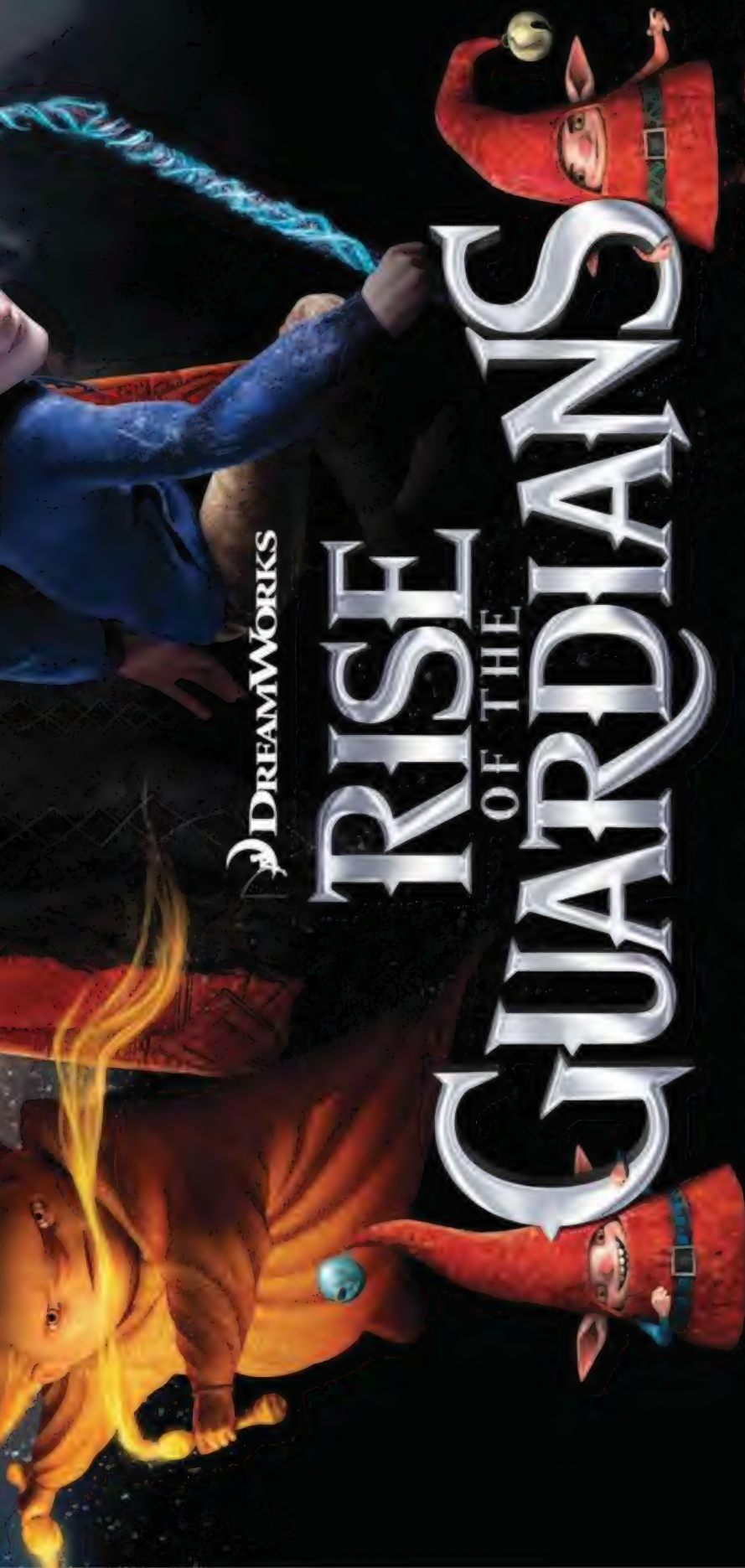
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Surfer in Hawaii







Where am I?

Guess where on Earth these **five** animals stay.

Fennec Fox

CLUES

1 I'm sometimes called a "desert fox" as my home stretches over areas of northern Africa and the Sinai and Arabian peninsulas. Only a few animals can survive here.

2 I'm an omnivore and during the day I stay out of the heat in tunnels I burrow in the sand dunes. At night I come out to eat rodents and plants.

3 My large, bat-like ears (which can grow about 15 centimetres long) keep me cool in temperatures over 50 degrees Celsius and my hairy soles protect my feet against the hot sand.

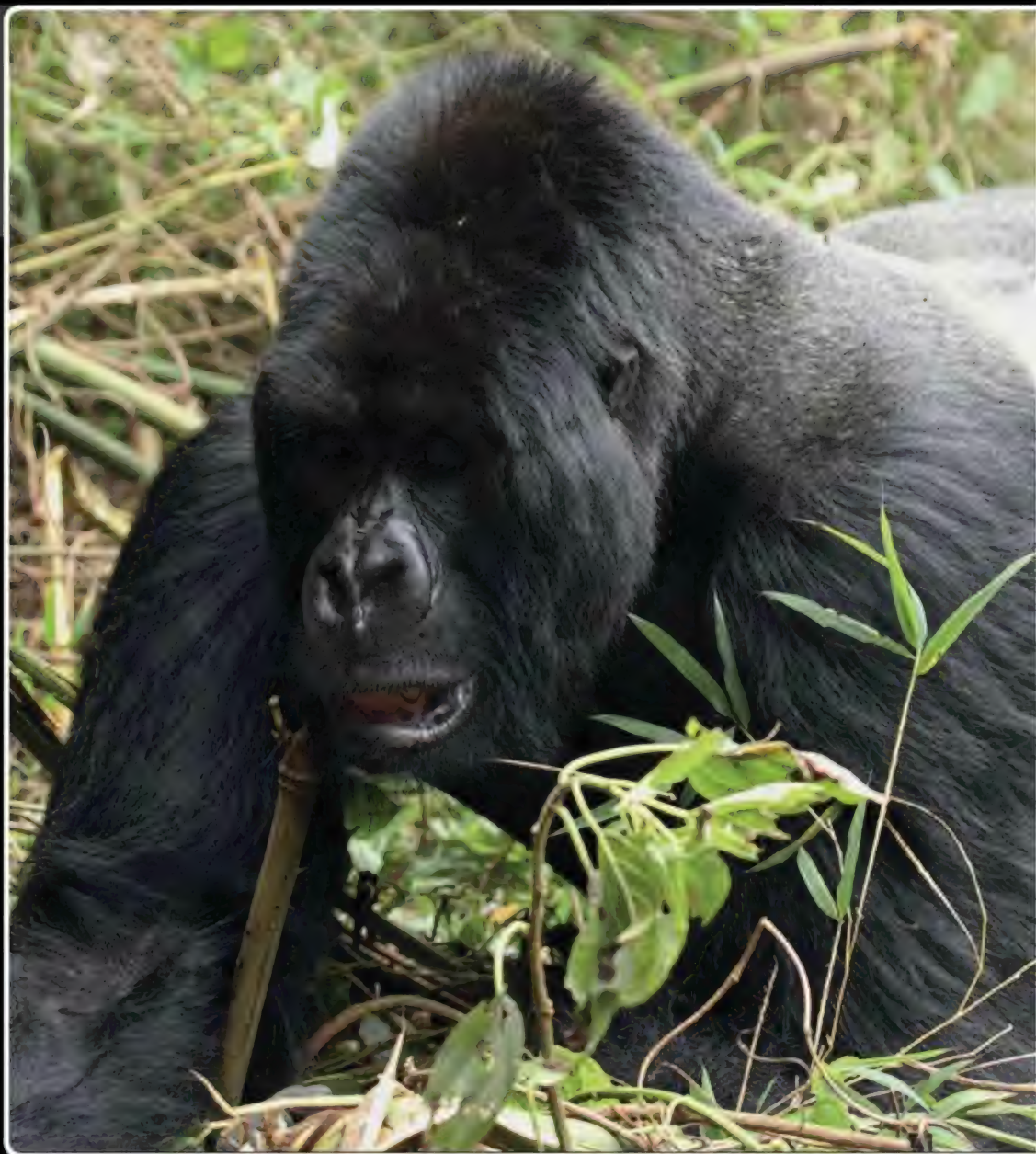


ANSWER

S A A A
E E T



BY JANI COETZEE



CLUES

1 I am highly endangered and I can be spotted in the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and the Virunga mountains.

2 I am an easy-going vegetarian that loves playing in the lush, tropical mountain forests of my home.



ANSWER

U A D A
A F I C

**Mountain
Gorilla**

© ISTOCKPHOTO / JEFFREY FOX, CASPIRARA,
BALD EAGLE, INFERA / MOUNTAIN GORILLA,
© GETTY / GALLO IMAGES (KAKAPO)



Capybara

CLUES

1 My home produces more than 20 percent of Earth's oxygen and is sometimes called the "lungs of the planet". It is also one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

2 I'm the largest rodent on Earth and live among over half of the world's estimated species of plants, insects and animals. Deforestation threatens my home.



ANSWER

A A A O N
R A N F O E S



Kakapo

CLUES

1 My home was the last major land mass to be populated. Other famous birds from this area are the kiwi and the moa.

2 I'm the heavyweight champion of the parrot world. I can't fly and am one of the rarest birds on the planet.

3 I love staying on this mountainous island, but prefer spending my nights wandering through the forest by myself.



ANSWER

N W
Z E L A N D

Bald Eagle

CLUES

1 I live on the third largest continent on Earth and I'm the national symbol of the fourth largest country in the world.

2 I love soaring above the forests, swamps, wetlands, lakes and rivers of my home. My favourite view from above is the Grand Canyon and sometimes I drink water from the Mississippi River.



3 My home was named after the explorer Amerigo Vespucci.



ANSWER

O T
E C

ANSWERS

Fennec

ANSWER: Sahara Desert

RANGE: Found in northern Africa and Asia. From Morocco to Egypt, as far south as northern Niger and as far east as Kuwait.

Mountain Gorilla

ANSWER: Uganda, Africa

RANGE: The volcanoes of the Virunga Massif at the border of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Uganda, Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in southwest Uganda on the border with DRC.

Capybara

ANSWER: Amazon Rainforest

RANGE: South America

Kakapo

ANSWER: New Zealand, Codfish Island and Anchor Island

Bald Eagle

ANSWER: North America

RANGE: Canada and Alaska, the USA and northern Mexico.



5 Smart Toys

BY KRISTIN BAIRD RATTINI

The
Science
Behind This
Season's
Hottest
Toys

Supercharged with top-notch technology, this year's coolest toys are totally realistic, from skittering robo-insects to a stuffed pony with lifelike moves. "Toymakers are combining cutting-edge science with inspiration from the real world," says Adrienne Appell of the Toy Industry Association. "The results are cool gizmos that challenge tech-savvy kids." Check out the science that makes these five great toys so smart.

1



THE TOY

FurReal Friends Baby Butterscotch.

WHAT IT IS

A toy pony that responds to touch

COOL SCIENCE

Touch sensors

HOW IT WORKS

This toy is the next best thing if you can't get a *real* pony. Baby Butterscotch has touch sensors on its head, back and side that react to what you're doing. The sensors detect where your fingers are and send the information to a microchip. The chip decides how the pony will respond based on the location of your fingers. So a scratch of the ears might get a warm nuzzle and a pat on the back could bring out a whinny. Feed the pony its carrot "treat" and you'll hear chewing sounds. Hey, even pretend ponies like to snack!





2

THE TOY

Regal Elite Force Flyer

WHAT IT IS

A toy helicopter controlled by a glove

COOL SCIENCE

Directional measurement

HOW IT WORKS

Twist your gloved hand left, right, up, or down, and the Force Flyer chopper mirrors your movements. A device called an accelerometer inside the motion glove measures each tiny change in your hand's direction, then sends a signal to the toy to copy your motion. Think of when you hold a smart phone vertically, then turn it sideways. Once the gadget detects the new position, it tells the graphics on the phone screen to turn horizontally, too.



THE TOY

HEXBUG Larva

WHAT IT IS

An insect 'bot that changes direction when it senses barriers

COOL SCIENCE

Infrared light

HOW IT WORKS

Break out the bug spray! When this lifelike, speedy robotic insect crawls near an obstacle such as a wall or your shoe, it reverses and wriggles off in a new direction. How does the robo-bug "see" barriers? The toy's nose shoots out an invisible beam of infrared light. If something blocks the larva's path, the beam bounces back to a sensor in the nose and the toy knows to change course. It's similar to the way a bat bounces sound waves off trees and other objects to find a clear flight path.

4



3

THE TOY

Nat Geo WILD Anteater Bug Vac

WHAT IT IS

An anteater-shaped gadget that lets you gather and inspect bugs safely

COOL SCIENCE

Suction

HOW IT WORKS

Point the snout of your Anteater Bug Vac at creepy crawlies in your backyard and hit the power button. This turns on a fan inside the toy that moves the air particles around. The force of the fan's motion causes the air pressure inside the toy to decrease. As the air pressure outside the toy becomes greater than the pressure inside, the air outside flows in, bringing bugs with it. This is suction, and it's similar to what happens when you sip juice through a straw. Since the anteater's suction isn't too strong, the critters remain safe as they are sucked into the toy's see-through tummy. Check them out – then set them free.



5

THE TOY

Crayola Digital Light Designer

WHAT IT IS

A domed drawing surface for creating light pictures

COOL SCIENCE

Persistence of vision

HOW IT WORKS

When you touch your digital pen to the toy's drawing surface, it looks like you're drawing in light. But the light is projected to the outer dome from tiny bulbs on a disk inside the toy. The points of light that appear on the surface seem to stay in place, but the inner disk and bulbs are actually spinning so fast that your eye can't detect the movement. This optical illusion is called persistence of vision.



BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE NEW MOVIE

THE HOBBIT

AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY

BY JANI COETZEE

The new movie *The Hobbit* is about Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit sent on a scary adventure through Middle-Earth to reclaim the lost Dwarf Kingdom of Erebor, which was conquered long ago by the dragon Smaug. We've met Bilbo before. He's the uncle of Frodo Baggins, the hero of *Lord of the Rings*. But this story takes place long before *Lord of the Rings*.

Bilbo and his friends go on a journey to places they've never seen—dangerous lands swarming with goblins and orcs, scary characters we met in *Lord of the Rings*, as well as wargs, giant spiders, shapeshifters and sorcerers.

1 PROUDLY SOUTH AFRICAN

The writer of *The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien, was born in Bloemfontein. Some of the things he experienced there became the inspiration for places and characters in *Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit*. J.R.R. once mentioned a baboon spider bit him when he was a child and this was his main influence when he created Shelob the Giant Spider.

In *The Hobbit*, twelve of the dwarves are captured by spiders and Bilbo has to fight off a giant spider with his sword to save them.

Baboon spiders are not deadly to humans, but some are venomous and their bite is extremely painful! These tarantulas are called baboon spiders because their legs look like a baboon's fingers.



2 DANDY DWARVES

Bilbo doesn't have to travel alone. He is joined by thirteen dwarves called Nori, Fili, Dori, Bofur, Gloin, Dwalin, Thorin Oakenshield, Balin, Oin, Bombur, Bifur, Ori and Kili. Filming wasn't a breeze for the actors playing the dwarves. Each carried an average load of nearly 80 kilograms while wearing a fat suit, prosthetics and a serious amount of facial hair. Since their names were so similar, director Peter Jackson thought it was important to make them easy to recognise. So each dwarf had different clothes, his own hairstyle and beard—not to mention his own quirky personality. Peter expanded the characters so much, he had to split the novel into three movies!





THE HOBBIT, BILBO BAGGINS

3 HOBBIT HEROES

The most important characters in *The Hobbit* are, well, the hobbits. These halflings are just over one metre tall. You'll know them by their hairy feet! Peter Jackson focused on the feet so much that over 1 800 hobbit feet were made for the first *Lord of The Rings* movie!

Hobbits sound like made-up characters, but deep in a cave in Flores, a remote island in Indonesia, scientists found nine tiny skeletons only one metre tall with grapefruit-sized skulls and long arms. They lived there more than 13 000 years ago. Scientists called them *Homo Floresiensis*, but nicknamed them Hobbits after Tolkien's characters.



4 TERRIBLE TYRANT

Smaug the Terrible, a giant dragon, conquered Erebor, destroying most of its inhabitants and collecting all their treasures. Bilbo and his team set off to defeat this monster.

Dragons play a big part in old stories told in many cultures. In Chinese folklore, dragons are seen as lucky and a symbol of happiness. Dragon images and carvings which were made by Vikings for decorations and ornaments, have been found on many archaeological sites. They also carved dragons on the bows of ships to protect the seafarers. The dragons were believed to scare away serpents that came from the depths of the ocean.




5 CREEPY CAVE CREATURE

While trying to escape from the goblin tunnels, Bilbo gets lost in a cave. There he meets the creature Gollum for the first time. Gollum isn't a pretty sight – he's been living in the dark for too long!

There are many animals who also adapted to being in darkness all the time. Cave dwellers or troglodytes live in a world where eyes are useless and colour does not matter. These creatures have adapted to living without seeing. Most troglodytes are blind. In fact, some cave creatures are born without eyes. The olm, a kind of salamander, has no eyes or colour, but can live to become 100 years old!

GOLLUM IS ALSO KNOWN AS SMÉAGOL



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: NORI, FILI, DORI, BOFUR, GLOIN, DWALIN, THORIN OAKENSHIELD, BALIN, OIN, BOMBUR, BIFUR, ORI AND KILI.

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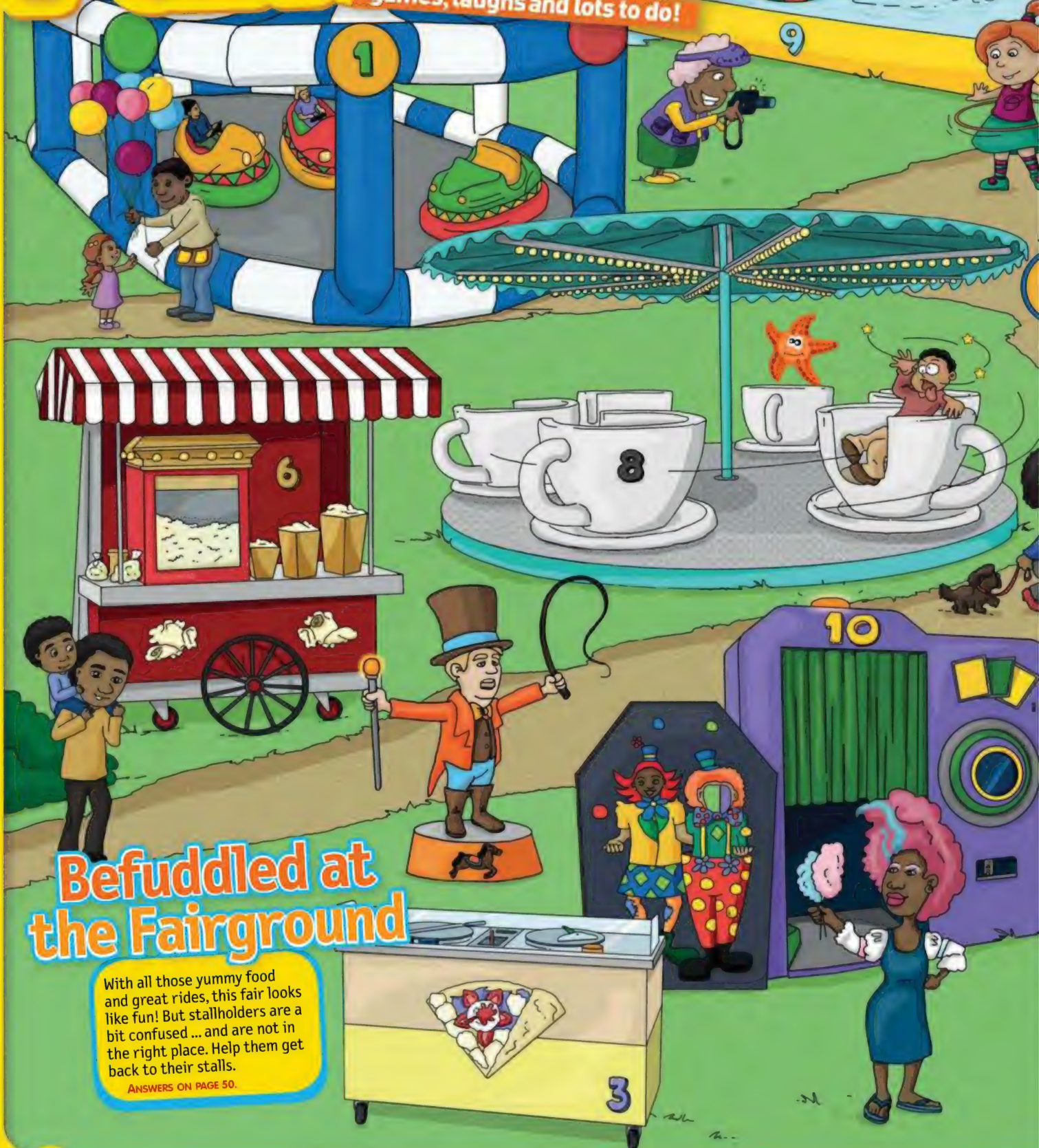
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Tel. Cell E-mail
Birth date Age

NGKDEC12

Fun Stuff

games, laughs and lots to do!



Befuddled at the Fairground

With all those yummy food and great rides, this fair looks like fun! But stallholders are a bit confused ... and are not in the right place. Help them get back to their stalls.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 50.



What in the World?

FUN ON THE FARM

These photographs show things you might see on a farm. Unscramble the letters to identify what's in each picture. Bonus: Use the highlighted letters to solve the puzzle below.

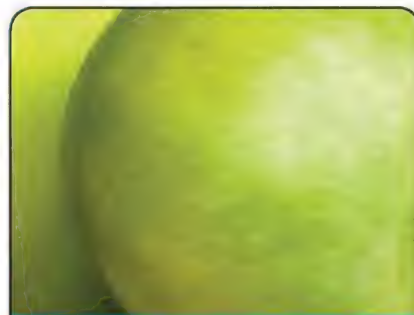
ANSWERS ON PAGE 50



IDEFL



RNAB



LPSEAP



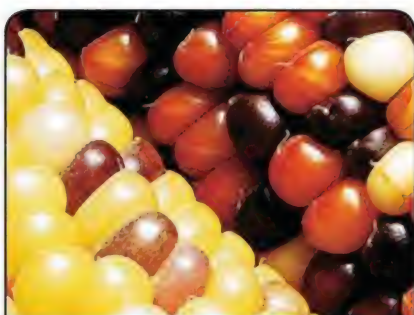
TOTARRC



RCOWCARE



AYH ESLAB



CNRO NO HET BOC



NDAAANBN



RDSGOU

HINT: It's hard to sleep late at a farm with this natural alarm clock.

ANSWER: _____

TOP ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): © GUREGU / DREAMTIME; © BRIAN GOODMAN / DREAMTIME; © JULIA SERGEEVA / DREAMTIME.
MIDDLE ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): © KASIDEN / DREAMTIME; © THELATIN10 / DREAMTIME; © CHRIS LOFTY / DREAMTIME.
BOTTOM ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): © PEREGRINEXT / DREAMTIME; © JIM PARKIN / DREAMTIME; © RENA MARIE / DREAMTIME.

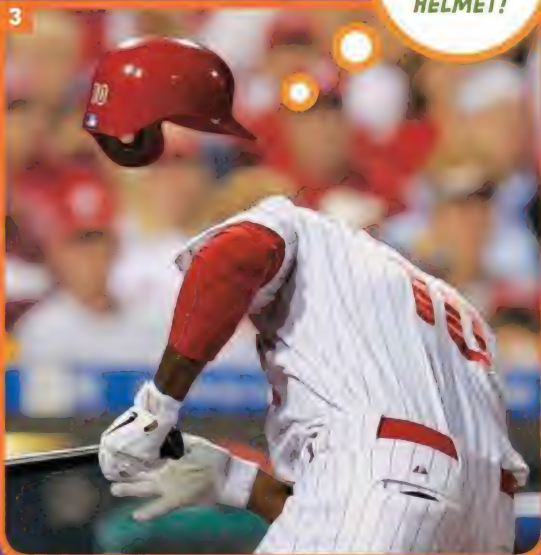
sports funnies

uh-oh!

BY KITSON JAZYNKA

EEK! A
GHOST
STOLE MY
HELMET!

3



The Philadelphia Phillies' Ben Francisco reacts to a wild pitch during a 2010 baseball game in Philadelphia, America.

Canada's Brad Martin slips during a men's snowboard event at the 2008 Winter X Games in Colorado, America.

MAYBE I'LL
GET EXTRA
POINTS FOR
WALKING ON
MY HANDS.

I WANT
AN ICE
CREAM
NOW!

WATCH ME.
YOUR DANCE
MOVES COULD
USE A LITTLE
WORK.

Norway's Linn-Kristin Riegelhuth, left, scores against Ukraine's Viktoriya Tymoshenko at the 2008 European Women's Handball Championships in Ohrid, Macedonia.

2



Canada's Stefanie Lawton shouts at teammates during a game at the 2009 Canadian Olympic Curling Trials in Edmonton, Canada.



43

ARE YOU “NORMAL”?

Take this **superfun quiz**
to find your range of strange.

BY MARK SHULMAN

Answer these questions to see how “normal” you really are. Check off your answer to each question, then see how other kids responded. Add up your points, look for your total in the box at the bottom and read what your score says about you.

WHICH PET WOULD YOU PICK?

- ☐ Dog: 1 ☐ Cat: 3
☐ Hamster: 3
☐ Anything else: 4

Did you choose dog?

More than 50 percent of kids say our best pal is the world's best pet.

Could it be cat?

1 in 6 is *feline* just fine.

Must have a hamster?

1 in 9 prefers pets on wheels.

Really like rabbits?

1 in 11 hopes for these hoppers.

Favourite is fish?

1 in 20 likes fish a lot.

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR SLICE?

- ☐ Just cheese: 2 ☐ Pepperoni: 2
☐ Everything: 4 ☐ Pizza? Ew! 4

Are you pleased with just cheese?

4 in 10 kids like their pizza plain.

Does pepperoni pizza give you pep?

Another 4 in 10 cheer for this extra.

Everything works for you?

Fewer than 1 in 10 go over the top with toppings.

Do you pass on pizza?

Fewer than 1 in 10 say no to this dough.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVE HANDHELD GADGET?

- ☐ Phone: 2 ☐ MP3 player: 2 ☐ Video game: 3 ☐ Camera: 4

Fancy a phone?

More than 4 out of 10 kids say cellphones ring true.

Mad for music?

3 in 10 sing the praises of their MP3 players.

Game for gaming?

2 in 10 give portable video games the highest score.

Prefer taking pics?

1 in 10 clicks the most with cameras.

SCORES

17-21 NORMAL AS TOMATO SAUCE ON A HOT DOG

Great minds think alike, and your great mind thinks like a lot of other kids. You're all about adventure when it comes to things such as sports. But with other things, like pizza, you keep it classic.



ARE YOU INTO EXTREME SPORTS?

- ☐ Totally: 2
☐ I just like regular sports: 2

☐ Sports are so not my thing: 4

Extremely into extreme sports?
 55 percent of kids are on board with you.

Regular sports are more your speed?

For 35 percent, ordinary sports beat out extreme ones.

The only things you surf are TV channels?

10 percent won't go to bat for any sport.

HAVE YOU SEEN A UFO?

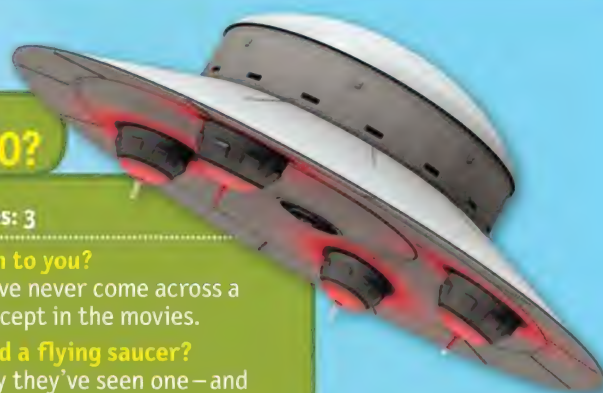
- ☐ No: 2 ☐ Yes: 3

Are UFOs alien to you?

7 in 10 kids have never come across a spaceship—except in the movies.

You've spotted a flying saucer?

3 in 10 kids say they've seen one—and they're out of this world!



HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU SPEND ON HOMEWORK EACH WEEK?

- ☐ 1 to 5 hours: 2 ☐ 6 to 11 hours: 4 ☐ 12+ hours: 3

Do you say "enough!" after an hour?

1 in 3 kids hits the books for 60 minutes or less.

Does an hour or two work for you?

1 in 4 says, "This is so true!"

Use your brainpower for 3 to 5 hours?

1 in 6 crams for this amount of time.

Do you assign 6 to 8 hours to homework?

1 in 14 spends a night's worth of sleep on schoolwork each week.

Does studying for 9 to 11 hours do the trick?

1 in 25 donates this chunk of time to the cause.

Spend 12 hours or more upping your scores?

1 in 9 studies, studies, studies and studies some more!



WHICH MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DO YOU LIKE BEST?

- ☐ Guitar or piano: 2
☐ Trumpet, violin, or flute: 3

Did you strum the guitar?

More than 1 in 3 kids agree this instrument rocks.

Do you think pianos are grand?

Over a quarter of kids say this is their key instrument.

Does the flute, trumpet, or violin strike the right note?

About 1 in 8 kids gives each of these a standing ovation.



DO YOU PICK YOUR SCABS?

- ☐ Nope: 2 ☐ Yep: 3

Um, yuck!

57 percent of kids think of scabs as "Do Not Disturb" signs.

Um, yeah!

43 percent think of scabs as built-in toys.

WHERE WOULD YOU TRAVEL IN A TIME MACHINE?

- ☐ 1960s or today: 2 ☐ Ancient Egypt, Renaissance, or colonial times: 3
☐ Jurassic: 4

The 1960s is your stop?

30 percent of kids want to peace out to this era.

You prefer the present?

26 percent think the here and now is the place to be.

Interested in ancient Egypt?

14 percent of kids feel like visiting far-off pharaohs.

Want to kick back in colonial times?

This is a hot spot for 11 percent of kids.

Feel like dropping in on dinos?

8 percent think going Jurassic sounds fantastic.



If these descriptions don't match you, that's OK. They are just for fun!

22-29 NORMAL AS TOMATO SAUCE ON EGGS

If you were an ice cream flavour, you'd probably be vanilla swirl. You may love some of the same things as other kids (that's your vanilla side), but you also have a style all your own (your swirl).

30-33 NORMAL AS TOMATO SAUCE ON A WATERMELON

In a nutshell, you're not like everyone else. Some of your choices—did you pick guppies over puppies, or pass on pizza?—are uncommon. But your wonderful weirdness is what makes you interesting.

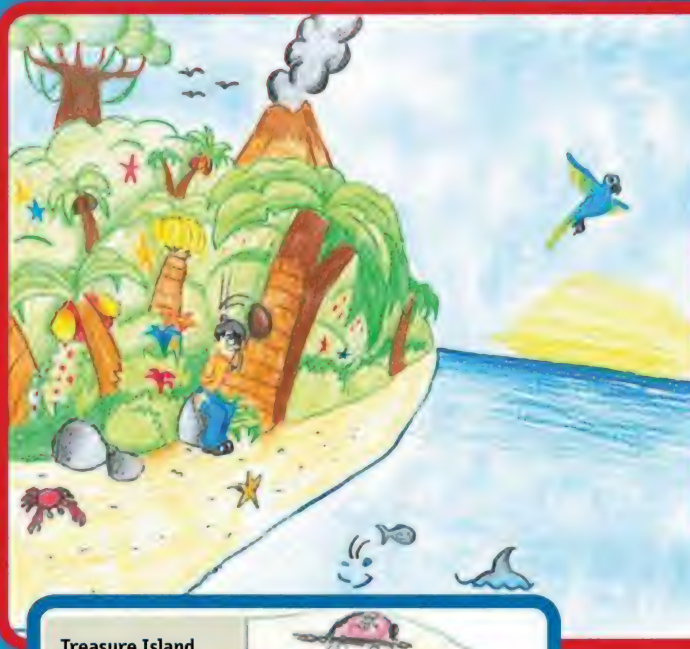
Art Zone

NG KIDS readers sent us drawings of themselves on an island. Aloha summer!



"Knopkop op die Eiland"
Janré Esterhuyzen, 11,
Brackenfell

The Adventure Island
Kerin Helmbold, 9, Betty's Bay



Paradise Island
Callum Wilson, 8, Somerset West

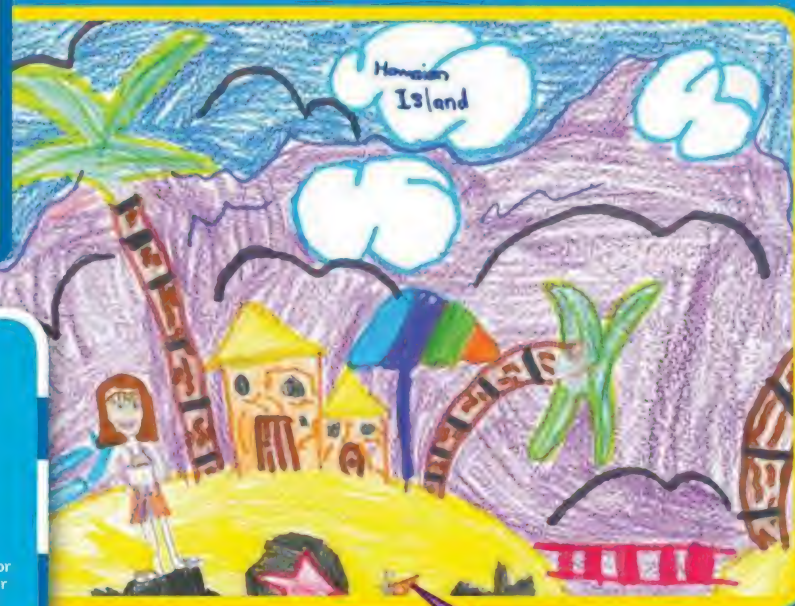
Treasure Island
Sebastian Pedersen, 9,
Pringle Bay



DRAW YOUR favourite teacher.

Send your **original drawings** to The Editor at NG KIDS,
PO Box 740, Cape Town 8000.

Include your name, address, phone number, date of birth, a title for your drawing, a statement that it is your own work and the name of your parent or guardian. Your parent or guardian must sign a release for publication of your illustration. Submissions become the property of the National Geographic Society, and all rights thereto are transferred to the National Geographic Society. Submissions cannot be acknowledged or returned. Selection will be at the discretion of NG KIDS.



Hawaiian Island
Abigail Wilson, 7, Somerset West

Family Project

Incredible Ice Lollies

When the summer is here, you can fight the warm African sun with these cool and easy treats!

BY JANI COETZEE

1 Beach Banana

What you'll need:

- 1 banana
- Otees cereal
- Ice lolly sticks
- Strawberry yoghurt

What you do:

- Cut banana in half.
- Stick ice lolly sticks into each banana half.
- Take the banana and dip it in the strawberry yoghurt—so it's covered completely.
- Roll bananas in Otees. The Otees will stick to the yoghurt. Place the bananas on wax paper.
- Leave in the freezer until frozen.



2 Zooty Fruity

What you'll need:

- Orange juice
- Berry juice
- Ice lolly sticks

What you do:

- Fill your mould with 1/2 the juice you want at the top.
- Place in the fridge until completely frozen. Add the second juice and cover the mould with tin foil. Make a small opening at the top for your ice lolly stick. Insert stick through the slit in the tin foil, so it stands up straight.
- Leave in the freezer until frozen.



3 Strawberry-licious

What you'll need:

- 5 to 6 strawberries
- 1 packet of strawberry or watermelon jelly
- Ice lolly sticks
- Chocolate chips
- Ice chips
- Ice lolly moulds

What you do:

- Chop strawberries finely (remove as many seeds as you can).
- Add ice chips.
- Ask a parent to help with preparing the jelly mixture and add it to the watermelon and ice.
- Put it in the fridge until it's stable and gooey.
- Add the chocolate chips and stir again.
- Scoop your mixture into small plastic cups and add the ice lolly sticks.
- Leave in the freezer until frozen.



3 fun facts about ice lollies

- The ice lolly was originally invented by an 11 year old boy named Frank Epperson in 1905.
- Frank accidentally left a cup of homemade cooldrink outside overnight. When he woke up the next morning, it was frozen around the stirring stick.
- Frank called it the Epsicle.

FUN factory

WIN A HAMPER!

You can win one of three hampers. SMS* "NGK Rise" followed by your name, age and address to 33970.

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS IN 3-D

The bogeyman, Pitch Black, wants to take over the world and it will take a special team to save the day. Enter the Guardians, a gang of holiday heroes led by Santa. Other members include E. Aster Bunny, the Tooth Fairy, the Sandman and Jack Frost.

The animators were inspired by lots of real locations. "Since Santa is a Russian Cossack warrior, we looked at Russian architecture like the Kremlin," art director Max Boas says. "His home in the North Pole is a giant wooden fortress. It is built by interlocking wood pieces, a bit like in the game Tetris."

For Tooth Fairy's palace, located in Southeast Asia, the team turned to Thai architecture. "It's made up of giant columns that represent the continents of the world. Within those continents are rings that are organised by country, city, street and house. Inside those are millions of boxes in which the fairies store the teeth," Max says. **IN THEATRES 7 DECEMBER 2012**



WATCH THIS!

PLAY THIS!



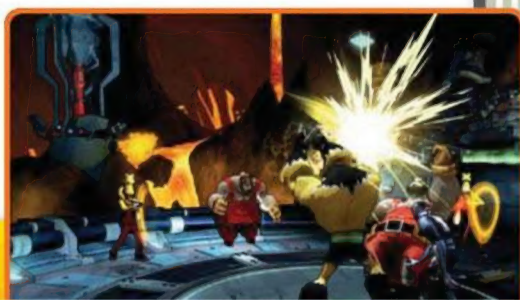
Ben 10 Omniverse

FOR PS3, X360, WII, 3DS, NDS

Can't get enough of your favourite TV show? Now you can be Ben Tennyson as a young boy or as a teen, switching forms between 13 aliens like Bloxx and Gravattack. Fight your way through action-packed levels in the underground alien city of Undertown and the new Plumber base in Max's shop. Play in single-player mode or get a friend around to play as Rook. Your new sidekick carries a Proto-Tool, the Swiss army knife of the future. You must stop a villain called Malware who wants to destroy the world!

WIN A GAME!

You can win one of three copies of Ben 10 Omniverse. SMS* "NGK Ben" followed by your name, age, address and platform preference to 33970.



HINT: Upgrade all of Rook's Proto-Tool functions with the Plumber Power reward by scoring 60 points.

1

WIN WITH CRAZY CONCEPTS

Visit the Crazy Concepts website to win a **Buoy Ball Swing*** that you can hang from a jungle gym or tree. Go to crazyconcepts.co.za and find and click on the sun emblem ☀ on the **Buoy Ball Swing** page to enter. For queries, phone 021-850-0102.

Go to crazyconcepts.co.za for more.

*COLOUR DEPENDING ON STOCK



2

IT'S A SIX!

Ten lucky readers in Cape Town and Johannesburg will win a **cricket coaching clinic** prize worth **R500** each at the **Cricket School of Excellence**. The school was founded in 1999 and has become one of South Africa's leading cricket schools. The clinics run from 10 to 13 December 2012 and 7 to 10 January 2013.

SMS* "NGKCricket" your answer, name, age, e-mail address and preferred city to 33970*. More information at www.cricketsschool.co.za.

Question: In what year was the Cricket School of Excellence founded?



3

WONDERBOOK™ AND THE BOOK OF SPELLS ON PS3

Wonderbook™ is a new peripheral for PS3™ which uses augmented reality technology to transform the world around you and bring mystery to your very own living room. **Book of Spells** by J.K. Rowling provides students of Hogwarts™ with a safe environment in which to read, discover, learn and practise spells they already know and love. One reader will win a **Wonderbook™: Book of Spells hamper** with a, the PS3™ game, a wizardry kit and more. SMS* "NGK Spells", your name, age and e-mail address to 33970.

*CONSUMERS NEED A PS3 CONSOLE AND MOVE STARTER PACK TO PLAY THE GAME.



* SEE PAGE 49 FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

Laugh Out Loud



"THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T LET RHINOS BORROW YOUR SKATEBOARD!"



"I WONDER WHEN HE'LL LEARN TO SPEAK CAT!"

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

*FOR ALL COMPETITIONS AND GIVEAWAYS IN NG KIDS

All entries must include your name, age, postal address, home telephone number, cell number, e-mail and any mandatory information specific to a competition, including answers to qualifying questions unless otherwise specified. • Prizes and giveaways cannot be transferred or exchanged for cash. • If you cannot meet any one of the entry requirements, the judges reserve the right to award the prize to a runner-up. • NG KIDS has the right to substitute the gift or prize with something of the same value. • The copyright of all entries, letters, photographs, artwork, SMSs and questions belongs exclusively to NG KIDS and NG KIDS reserves the right to edit and republish them in any media. • Winners may decline to have their name used in advertising or listed publicly. • Competitions and giveaways are open to anyone 14 years or younger, except employees of Media24, sponsors and their agents or any company associated with the competition and their immediate families. • Where the competition prize is a holiday stipulating that it is for a certain number of adults and children, "children" will be taken to be under the age of 12, unless stated otherwise. • Unless specified only submissions or entries from South Africa are allowed. If winners reside outside of South Africa they may be liable for transport, courier or postage costs. • The winners will be notified telephonically and their names will appear in NG KIDS magazine. • The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. • Allow two months for delivery of prizes from winners' announcement in NG KIDS. • The prizes will be awarded to correct entries drawn randomly by computer after the closing date, except when there is judging involved or it is stated otherwise. • If the winner cannot be contacted within two weeks after the closing date, an alternative winner will be drawn. • All competition entry SMSs are charged at R1.50 each. Free minutes and SMS bundles do not apply. You can enter as many times as you like, unless stated otherwise. • By entering competitions online, via e-mail or SMS, you agree to receive future correspondence from NG KIDS magazine and the prize sponsors. You can opt out at any stage by sending an e-mail containing your name, surname, cell number and e-mail address with the subject line "opt out" to optout@ngkids.co.za. • The entrant accepts that entry to the competition does not constitute a contract or any form of legal commitment between the entrant and NG KIDS, Media24 or the National Geographic Society. • NG KIDS will not assume liability for any ambiguity, error, oversight or omission whether negligent or otherwise which may be committed by any employee of the participating magazine, their agents or associates in respect of competitions or giveaways published in the magazine or online. • Entry signifies acceptance of the rules. • Competitions in the December 2012 issue of NG KIDS close on 18 December 2012 unless otherwise specified.



*GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS

Children must ask an adult's permission. SMSs charged at R1. • Free minutes and SMS bundles do not apply. • Offer valid until 18 December 2012. • All new and renewed subscribers will qualify for the R100 discount. • Offer is not valid in conjunction with the Vitality offer. • See full terms and conditions above for all competitions and giveaways in NG KIDS. • Discovery Vitality offer valid only for active Vitality members. • All subscribers agree to receive future correspondence from NG KIDS. You can opt out at any stage by sending an e-mail containing your name, surname, cell number and e-mail address with the subject line "opt out subscriber" to optout@ngkids.co.za. • Offer is open to SA addresses only. Call 021-405-1905 for international rates. • NG KIDS CLUB benefits are strictly for South African residents. • Staff of Media24 (Ltd) and their immediate family, sponsors and their advertising agencies are not entered into monthly subscriber competitions.



*SAMSONITE COMPETITION

The competition opens on 21 November and closes on 18 December 2012. • See full terms and conditions for all competitions and giveaways in NG KIDS. • Win one of ten Samsonite kids luggage sets valued at R2 000 each. The set consists of an upright 50cm suitcase, a backpack, a purse and umbrella. You can enter as many times as you like.



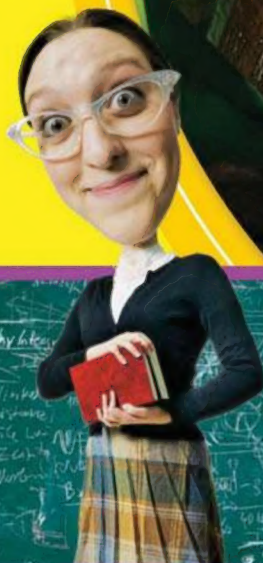
WINNERS FROM NG KIDS SEPTEMBER ISSUE

JAN BRAAI'S FIREWORKS: Rhea Govender (Durban), Joel Govender (Durban), Shaun Van Der Linde (Pretoria)
FLIK FLAK WATCHES: Jarrod Gratz (East London), Abdullah D Vawda (KZN), Joe Germishuis (Stellenbosch), Neelan Kanjee (Johannesburg), Matthew Nienaber (Johannesburg), Kristina Mercer (Durban), Emma Oosthuizen (Stellenbosch), Brittany Kettle (Cape Town), Temicaa Beepat (Durban), Lea Renard (KZN)
LONDON 2012 GAMES: Jameel Moollajee (Johannesburg), JD Bester (Pretoria)
MAKE YOUR OWN T.REX: Tyla De Kock (East London), Meca Smith (Pretoria)
BAKER STREET BOYS BOOKS: Daniel Mudge (Somerset West), Pascal Tostee (Durban), Kyle da Silva (Somerset West), Katia Chedrawi (Klerksdorp), Protea Louw (KZN)

Just Joking

**KNOCK,
KNOCK.**

Who's there?
Hammond.
Hammond who?
Hammond eggs!



CARRIE: Ms. Hunt, would you get mad at me for something I didn't do?

MS. HUNT: Of course not, Carrie.

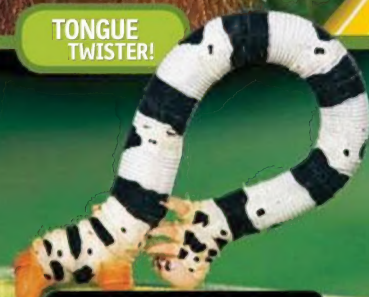
CARRIE: Great, because I didn't do my homework.

Q What did the pen say to the pencil?

A So what's your point?



TONGUE TWISTER!



Say this fast three times:

I see inchworms inching.

You've got to be joking...

Q Why did the dog cross the road twice?

A He was trying to fetch a boomerang.



Answers



"Beduddled at the Fairground" (page 40):

Bonus: a rooster

guards

Bottom row: corn on the cob, bandanna,

Middle row: tractor, scarecrow, hay bales.

Top row: field, barn, apples.

"What in the World?" (page 42):

This Christmas

CHOOSE FROM THESE.

MANY MORE GAMES IN STORE!



R299.90 EA

PS3 | Wii | XBOX 360



R199.90 EA

PS3 | XBOX 360



R199.90 EA

PS3 | XBOX 360



R149.90 EA



R349.90 EA

PS3 | XBOX 360



R149.90 EA



R249.90 EA



R129.90 EA

Skylanders Spyro's Adventure figurines **R129.90 EA**

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two of these Skylanders
Spyro's Adventure
figurines & get your
third one for
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CYNDER



CHOP CHOP



STEALTH ELF



DING RANG



VOODOO



ZAP



CAMO



ZOOK



DOUBLE TROUBLE



DRILL SERGEANT



FLAMESLINGER



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WHIRLWIND



BASH



WRECKING BALL



HEX



LIGHTNING ROD



WHAM SHELL



DROBOT



SONIC BOOM



STUMP SMASH



WARNADO

COLLECT THEM ALL!

APPLICABLE ONLY TO
THESE DISPLAYED FIGURINES!

Offer valid from December 1-24 only.
Excludes all Skylanders Giants or Skylanders 2 items.

**NOW 47
STORES
NATIONWIDE!**